

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Frederick H. Mueller, Secretary

CENSUS

UNITED STATES FOREIGN TRADE

BUREAU OF THE CENSUS

Robert W. Burgess, Director

SUMMARY REPORT
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IMPORT TRADE BY COMMODITY

The Bureau of the Census, Department of Commerce, announced today that the decrease in United States imports for consumption from \$1,348.7 million¹ in September to \$1,214.6 million¹ in October, a drop of about 10 percent, reflected noticeable decreases in imports of crude foodstuffs, manufactured foodstuffs, and semimanufactures. October imports for consumption were, however, about five percent greater than the October 1958 imports for consumption total of \$1,153.3 million.

The Bureau stated that for the first ten months of 1959 (January-October), total imports for consumption amounted to \$12,303.6 million, an increase of about 18 percent over the \$10,467.7 million reported for the corresponding period of 1958.

From September to October, imports of crude foodstuffs fell from \$190.6 to \$113.6 million. The

¹In anticipation of the longshoremen's strike which started October 1, some import entries which normally would have been filed in October and included in October statistics were filed in September and included in September statistics. Information on the extent to which this "inflated" the September import figures is not available.

bulk of this decrease was accounted for by substantial decreases in imports of coffee, from \$136.7 to \$65.7 million, and cocoa beans, from \$14.4 to \$5.9 million. Lower levels of imports of sugar, from \$50.5 to \$22.9 million and meat products, from \$41.7 to \$27.0 million accounted for most of the decline in imports of manufactured foodstuffs from \$162.9 to \$118.3 million. Imports of semimanufactures fell from \$274.3 to \$256.9 million owing chiefly to declines in imports of copper, from \$25.4 to \$16.5 million; fertilizers and materials, from \$7.5 to \$3.1 million; and gas and fuel oil, from \$32.3 to \$28.2 million. However, imports of lead, also included in this economic class, rose from \$3.4 to \$8.2 million.

During the period, imports of crude materials climbed from \$264.6 to \$267.4 million as gains in imports of zinc, from \$0.7 to \$6.9 million; rough or uncut diamonds, from \$5.1 to \$10.7 million; and crude petroleum, from \$69.6 to \$75.1 million, were partly offset by declines in imports of tin, from \$5.5 to \$0.8 million and unmanufactured cotton, from \$3.5 to \$0.5 million. October imports of finished manufactures, valued at \$458.4 million, were slightly higher than the \$456.3 million reported in September.

EXPLANATION OF STATISTICS

COVERAGE: Import statistics include merchandise imported by government agencies as well as by private importers, but exclude American goods returned by the United States armed forces for their own use. United States trade with Puerto Rico, Hawaii, and United States possessions is not included in this report, but the import trade of Puerto Rico and Hawaii with foreign countries is included as a part of the United States import trade. Merchandise shipped in-transit through the United States between foreign countries is not included in import statistics.

VALUATION: Import values are, in general, based on market price or selling price, and are, in general, f.o.b. the exporting country. Import values also exclude United States import duties. None of the values have been adjusted for changes in price level.

EFFECT OF SAMPLING: Effective January 1958 formal entry shipments valued less than \$100 and informal entry shipments valued \$250 or less (less than one percent of total import value) are estimated by

sampling. These estimated values are shown in this table as "Estimated value \$1-\$99 formal and \$1-\$250 informal entry shipments" and are arbitrarily included in the total for "Finished manufactures". Prior to 1958 all imports valued \$250 or less whether reported on formal or informal entries were estimated by sampling and were shown separately by economic class. For convenience these estimates for 1957 are now included in the "All other" category for each economic class. For an indication of the effect the change in coverage and the change in presentation of sampled transactions have on the economic classes and commodity totals shown in this report effective with data for 1958, see the January 1958 issue of FT 930-I.

Further information regarding coverage, valuation, etc., is contained in the "General Explanation" in foreword of Report No. FT 110. For complete statement, see the foreword in Foreign Commerce and Navigation of the United States.

Prepared in the Bureau of the Census, Foreign Trade Division

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UNITED STATES IMPORTS FOR CONSUMPTION OF MERCHANDISE, BY ECONOMIC CLASSES AND LEADING COMMODITIES:
OCTOBER 1959 AND SELECTED PERIODS

(Quantity in units indicated; value in millions of dollars. Imports for consumption are a total of imports for immediate consumption plus withdrawals for consumption from bonded warehouses. Figures for 1959 are as originally issued and have not been revised to include published corrections. Figures for 1958 include revisions published with the December 1958 reports, or earlier, but do not include revisions published during 1959. Totals represent sum of unrounded figures, hence may vary slightly from sum of rounded amounts. See the "Explanation of Statistics" for information on sampling procedures and effect thereof on data shown.)

Economic class and commodity	October 1959	September 1959	October 1958	Monthly average	
				1958	1957
Total.....value..	1,214.6	1,348.7	1,153.3	1,061.2	1,079.2
Free.....value..	455.0	553.8	479.3	444.6	503.0
Dutiable.....value..	759.5	794.8	674.0	616.6	576.2
Crude materials.....value..	267.4	264.6	244.5	230.2	267.6
Hides and skins.....value..	6.4	9.2	4.5	4.5	4.1
Undressed furs.....value..	3.1	4.3	2.4	6.7	6.6
Crude rubber.....1,000,000 lb..	109	108	102	89	104
value..	37.2	35.3	23.0	20.9	29.4
Copra.....1,000 lb..	65,504	61,588	34,767	50,102	53,713
value..	5.8	5.4	2.8	4.0	3.4
Tobacco, unmanufactured.....1,000 lb..	14,140	11,698	14,133	11,548	10,345
value..	10.7	8.9	10.3	8.7	8.0
Cotton, unmanufactured.....1,000 lb..	7,092	19,218	11,447	12,190	13,692
value..	0.5	3.5	1.8	2.5	5.2
Jute and jute butts.....long tons..	2,744	4,068	28	3,121	4,977
value..	0.3	0.4	(*)	0.7	1.2
Sisal and henequen.....long tons..	8,253	11,773	13,267	16,306	10,409
value..	1.3	1.8	1.7	1.4	1.5
Wool, unmanufactured, free.....(1,000,000 lb.)..actual weight..	21	23	25	13	14
clean content ² ..	16	18	19	10	10
value..	11.2	12.8	10.8	6.6	8.5
Wool, unmanufactured, dutiable.....(1,000,000 lb.)..actual weight..	10	10	7	9	10
clean content ² ..	7	7	5	6	7
value..	6.8	7.9	5.3	7.1	9.1
Pulpwood.....1,000 cords..	130	149	117	114	147
value..	2.9	3.3	2.6	2.4	3.0
Crude petroleum.....1,000 bbl..	33,882	31,863	34,320	31,977	32,150
value..	75.1	69.6	82.2	78.3	81.7
Diamonds, rough or uncut.....1,000 carats..	179	133	110	94	83
value..	10.7	5.1	7.4	6.0	6.4
Diamonds, for industrial use.....1,000 carats..	966	1,018	767	839	1,051
value..	4.1	5.2	3.6	3.3	4.3
Iron ore and concentrates.....1,000 long tons..	3,899	3,802	3,281	2,294	2,806
value..	35.5	33.6	27.8	19.3	23.8
Ferroalloying ores.....value..	7.4	6.4	12.0	11.4	18.5
Copper (copper content).....1,000 lb..	4,335	4,197	4,818	16,884	18,994
value..	1.3	1.3	1.2	3.8	5.5
Lead (lead content).....1,000 lb..	33,097	7,390	19,782	40,377	39,676
value..	3.5	0.7	2.0	4.3	5.3
Tin (tin content).....long tons..	334	2,454	115	455	8
value..	0.8	5.5	0.2	0.9	(*)
Zinc (zinc content).....1,000 lb..	134,999	18,641	77,376	90,236	113,656
value..	6.9	0.7	3.6	4.3	7.4
Other nonferrous ores and concentrates.....value..	6.2	5.9	6.4	6.2	6.0
All other crude materials ³value..	29.8	37.7	32.7	26.9	28.7
Crude foodstuffs.....value..	113.6	190.6	173.0	161.4	168.4
Fish and shellfish.....1,000 lb..	54,904	53,348	45,281	39,847	32,738
value..	13.6	12.9	13.8	12.2	10.2
Cattle, except for breeding.....thousands..	41	22	153	94	59
value..	4.4	2.6	18.1	10.8	5.5
Grains.....value..	4.3	3.4	3.3	4.2	5.8
Vegetables, fresh and dried.....value..	1.1	1.2	1.1	3.8	2.2
Bananas.....1,000 bunches..	4,286	4,085	4,455	4,064	3,976
value..	6.0	5.9	5.9	5.8	5.8
Cocoa or cacao beans.....1,000,000 lb..	18	42	18	37	43
value..	5.9	14.4	7.2	14.4	11.2
Coffee, raw or green.....1,000,000 lb..	195	403	271	222	230
value..	65.7	136.7	109.0	97.5	114.7
Tea.....1,000 lb..	9,130	7,264	8,546	8,618	8,536
value..	4.3	3.4	4.0	4.0	4.2
Black pepper, unground.....1,000 lb..	3,930	3,339	3,501	2,889	2,713
value..	1.0	0.8	0.8	0.6	0.6
All other crude foodstuffs ³value..	7.4	9.3	9.9	8.1	8.1

See footnotes at end of table.

UNITED STATES IMPORTS FOR CONSUMPTION OF MERCHANDISE, BY ECONOMIC CLASSES AND LEADING COMMODITIES:
OCTOBER 1959 AND SELECTED PERIODS—Continued

Economic class and commodity	October 1959	September 1959	October 1958	Monthly average	
				1958	1957
Manufactured foodstuffs.....value..	118.3	162.9	130.3	125.4	106.0
Meat products.....1,000 lb..	66,229	107,903	73,876	70,817	34,084
value..	27.0	41.7	30.1	27.9	15.3
Cheese.....1,000 lb..	4,167	6,724	5,755	4,645	4,240
value..	2.0	3.5	3.0	2.3	2.2
Fish and shellfish canned, prepared, etc.....1,000 lb..	57,930	42,185	52,990	39,886	37,175
value..	16.3	12.8	14.1	11.0	10.6
Fodders and feeds.....value..	1.3	1.0	2.1	1.8	1.7
Cane sugar.....1,000,000 lb..	409	913	574	772	690
value..	22.9	50.5	32.0	43.3	38.3
Molasses.....1,000 gal..	12,893	23,884	21,522	28,698	20,076
value..	1.6	3.0	2.3	3.7	3.3
Whisky.....value..	21.2	18.7	17.9	13.2	12.5
All other manufactured foodstuffs ³value..	25.9	31.6	28.8	22.2	22.2
Semimanufactures.....value..	256.9	274.3	241.2	220.1	243.3
Leather.....value..	4.0	4.5	3.2	2.6	2.6
Bristles.....1,000 lb..	257	353	218	200	208
value..	0.6	0.6	0.6	0.5	0.6
Expressed oils, inedible.....value..	4.3	4.9	4.0	4.1	4.2
Quebracho.....1,000 lb..	8,086	11,744	8,463	9,300	10,296
value..	0.7	1.0	0.6	0.7	0.8
Wool semimanufactures.....value..	4.8	5.0	3.6	3.7	4.0
Sawed boards, planks, deals, etc.....1,000,000 bd. ft..	319	315	339	283	245
value..	28.1	27.2	27.4	21.8	20.2
Wood pulp.....1,000 short tons..	198	192	199	175	175
value..	25.7	24.5	26.2	23.1	22.8
Gas and fuel oil.....1,000 bbl..	13,963	15,925	18,809	17,566	15,431
value..	28.2	32.3	40.8	41.6	41.4
Asbestos.....long tons..	49,806	52,007	50,382	43,706	46,670
value..	4.5	5.0	4.6	4.0	4.2
Diamonds, cut but not set.....1,000 carats..	84	101	111	60	51
value..	7.6	9.3	7.5	5.7	5.5
Iron and steel semimanufactures.....value..	24.9	23.3	12.6	7.5	4.8
Aluminum.....value..	11.4	10.5	12.1	11.8	10.8
Copper (copper content).....1,000,000 lb..	55	84	52	56	79
value..	16.5	25.4	13.6	13.7	23.7
Lead (lead content).....1,000 lb..	48,831	21,308	39,668	61,166	56,519
value..	8.2	3.4	3.9	6.6	7.6
Nickel and alloys.....1,000 lb..	15,305	18,441	6,919	15,448	23,133
value..	9.9	12.0	4.6	10.2	16.8
Tin.....1,000 lb..	8,113	9,947	9,895	8,275	11,422
value..	8.1	10.1	9.0	7.5	10.9
Zinc.....1,000 lb..	37,139	25,257	35,848	31,111	44,907
value..	4.0	2.7	3.3	2.9	5.4
Coal-tar products.....value..	5.4	5.6	4.3	3.9	3.9
Industrial chemicals.....value..	9.0	7.4	6.1	6.0	5.8
Fertilizers and materials.....1,000 short tons..	77	215	168	128	132
value..	3.1	7.5	6.3	4.9	5.0
All other semimanufactures ³value..	47.8	52.2	47.0	37.2	42.5
Finished manufactures.....value..	458.4	456.3	364.2	324.2	293.9
Leather manufactures.....value..	10.1	9.3	7.2	5.1	4.0
Essential or distilled oils.....value..	1.5	1.9	1.7	1.3	1.7
Cotton cloth.....1,000 sq. yd..	27,671	20,349	8,078	11,795	10,208
value..	5.5	4.1	2.3	3.2	2.9
Other cotton manufactures.....value..	16.5	13.7	8.6	9.3	8.1
Burlap.....1,000 yd..	56,138	76,141	62,617	70,910	71,349
1,000 lb..	31,542	44,269	36,250	40,641	41,253
value..	5.2	7.4	5.8	6.3	6.7
Flax, hemp and ramie manufactures.....value..	3.3	3.0	2.9	2.3	2.5
Wool manufactures.....value..	16.1	16.4	11.1	10.9	11.3
Silk manufactures.....value..	7.4	7.1	6.6	4.8	4.7
Shingles.....1,000 squares..	215	91	279	178	159
value..	2.2	0.9	2.5	1.6	1.6
Newsprint.....1,000 short tons..	460	462	440	407	435
value..	58.9	58.8	55.2	51.3	54.8
Other paper manufactures.....value..	7.2	7.6	6.1	5.0	4.9
Pottery.....value..	5.3	6.3	5.3	3.9	3.7

See footnotes at end of table.



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UNITED STATES IMPORTS FOR CONSUMPTION OF MERCHANDISE, BY ECONOMIC CLASSES AND LEADING COMMODITIES
OCTOBER 1959 AND SELECTED PERIODS—Continued

Economic class and commodity	October 1959	September 1959	October 1958	Monthly average	
				1958	1957
Finished manufactures—Continued					
Steel mill products.....value..	31.7	31.2	16.4	13.4	14.7
Iron and steel advanced manufactures.....value..	10.3	10.0	7.0	6.4	6.1
Agricultural machinery and implements.....value..	12.4	8.8	8.9	10.2	6.6
Automobiles and parts.....value..	63.9	63.7	50.6	46.0	28.1
Other machinery.....value..	46.4	44.6	32.6	28.8	28.1
Vehicles, except automobiles.....value..	10.2	9.4	8.6	10.5	8.0
Photographic goods.....value..	4.4	4.8	4.2	3.4	3.3
Scientific and professional instruments.....value..	3.4	3.5	2.8	2.4	2.2
Musical instruments and parts.....value..	3.3	3.3	2.0	1.6	1.7
Toys and sporting goods.....value..	5.4	6.1	4.7	3.4	3.5
Watches and watch movements, except parts.....value..	7.0	6.0	6.2	3.9	4.7
American goods returned.....value..	21.2	26.4	18.5	16.6	15.8
All other finished manufactures ³value..	87.6	90.1	75.6	64.4	64.1
Estimated value \$1-\$99 formal and \$1-\$250 informal entry shipments ³value..	11.9	12.0	10.9	8.3	xxx

*Indicates less than \$50,000.

¹See footnote one on front page of this report.

²Includes the actual weight of carbonized wool.

³For an explanation of the sampling procedures, see "Effect of Sampling" on front page.